Supports Item No. 1
CS&B Committee Agenda
June 14, 2007

CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date:	May 24, 2007
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TO: Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets

FROM: Director of Social Planning

SUBJECT: 2007 Civic Childcare Grants - Allocation 2 of 3

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve 51 Childcare Enhancement Grants totalling $698,558 as listed in Appendix A, with conditions as noted; source of funds: 2007 Childcare Grants Budget, 2007 Operating Budget.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

COUNCIL POLICY

Council established the annual Civic Childcare Grants Program on October 23, 1990, as part of the Civic Childcare Strategy. The overall objectives of this grant program are:

- to support the viability, accessibility and quality of existing child care services;
- to assist child care initiatives in high need areas;
- to encourage and support efficient, coordinated administrative services required for a child care system in Vancouver;
- to lever other sources of child care funding whenever possible.

Council approved "Moving Forward" - Childcare: A Cornerstone of Childhood Development in April, 2002, which set out a strategic plan for child care and child development services for the City.

In June, 2005, Council approved combining the Inner City Sustaining, Program Enhancement and Inner City Bursary grants into one Childcare Enhancement grant to help offset operating costs, based on centre's licensed capacity for high need areas and tie to conditions of quality and affordability.

In June, 2006, Council approved revised criteria for the Childcare Enhancement grant.

On February 27, 2007, Council approved the 2007 Operating Budget with a 2% cost of living increase in the amount of $1,096,800 for the Civic Childcare Grants.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

SUMMARY

This report recommends the allocations for the Childcare Enhancement Grant which targets services to children in high need neighbourhoods. Funding is provided on an annual basis to assist in keeping parent fees below the city average, provide extra staff ratios in high need programs, develop and implement continuous quality improvement, support co-ordinated administration and offer hot breakfast/lunch and nutritious snack programs.

This year, staff received grant requests for 57 programs, of which six were deemed ineligible as they did not meet the grant criteria. The majority of qualifying programs reside in the top ten most at-risk communities according to the Early Development Instrument developed by Dr. Clyde Hertzman - UBC. The recommended allocation is $698,558 to support 51 licensed group care programs for infants, toddlers, three to five year olds, out-of-school age children full and/or part time, and child minding. The grants support approximately 1,515 spaces serving an estimated 1,664 children.

PURPOSE

This report makes recommendations for the Childcare Enhancement Grant to 51 licensed non-profit child care programs serving children in high need areas. Specifically, the grant supports maintaining fees at or below city averages, hot lunch, breakfast and/or snack programs, additional staff ratios, coordinated administration or quality improvement.

This is the second of three reports regarding the 2007 Childcare Grants Program.

BACKGROUND

Recognizing that child care is a Provincial mandate and primarily funded by parent fees, Councils, since 1990, have assisted children and families attending child care programs in high need neighbourhoods in Vancouver. Vancouver City Council established the annual Civic Childcare Grants program on October 23, 1990, as part of the Civic Childcare Strategy. The purpose of the Child Care Civic Grants Program is to help support a comprehensive publicly

funded child care system that is affordable, accessible and of high quality. Grant funding specifically provides enhanced program quality without necessitating an increase in parent fees.

Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of the Childcare Enhancement grant is to:

- Strengthen co-ordinated administration through the community hub model to increase administrative effectiveness among small non profits;
- Develop and implement a quality improvement plan to increase the quality of the care provided;
- Provide a food supplement program (e.g. hot breakfast and lunch) including monthly menu plan based on sound nutritional planning and a staff schedule for food preparation to increase the nutrition of the children;
- Enhance staff ratios to better serve high-need children;
- Support affordability by maintaining fees at or below city average.

Client Profile and High Need Neighbourhoods

Dr. Clyde Hertzman argues a universal versus targeted approach to child care; however, given the Provincial mandate for child care, Councils have targeted high need programs in high need neighbourhoods in Vancouver.

High need programs are identified by the percentage of:

- children from single parent families,
- children who receive Provincial subsidy,
- children from new immigrant or refugee families,
- children who speak English as a second language,
- Aboriginal children.

Funding Amount

The grant allocation provides a consistent level of funding for all eligible programs licensed based on the type of care and the number of hours and staff ratios required to deliver the service. A full-time equivalent space formula is applied.

The maximum eligible amount for this grant is $27,000, which ensures a wider distribution of funding to a variety of programs.

DISCUSSION

In 2006, Council allocated $670,104 to 51 programs with 1,429 spaces serving 1,545 children. This year $698,558 supports an estimated 51 childcare programs with 1,515 spaces serving 1,664 children - an increase of 86 spaces. This is a result of changes in program type or number of spaces.

Of the 51 grant recipients, 42 were located and/or serving families in the ten areas most at risk on any scale of the Early Development Instrument. The remaining programs, although not in high need neighbourhoods, have high numbers of children from families at risk.

One of the objectives of the Childcare Enhancement Grant is to assist with the affordability of child care. All programs maintain their fees at or below city averages. The city average for group child care for 3-5 year olds is $636. The current average fee charged by grant applicants is $581.

For a summary of themes and trends identified from the grant process this year see APPENDIX B.

SOCIAL IMPLICTIONS

Cost of Living Indicators ("Worldwide Cost of Living Survey") suggest that Vancouver is the second most expensive Canadian city to live in. Families with a median income of $51,268 (2001 census), with one infant and one three-year old in child care would spend approximately $19,608/year (2006 Westcoast childcare Resource Centre Fee Survey) on child care fees, or roughly 38% of annual income. For lone parent families that have a median income of $30,814, this is 64% of their income.

While spending a significant percentage of income on child care fees is not unique to Vancouver, the additional high cost of living (housing, etc.) in Vancouver presents many challenges, especially for those with lower income. The support that is targeted by Council to lower income families with children in child care helps to alleviate a portion of this financial burden.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2007 Operating Budget for Civic Childcare Grants is $1,096,800 with $698,558 recommended to be allocated for Childcare Enhancement Grants (as listed in APPENDIX A).

Program	2007 Proposed Budget	2007 Allocated	2007 Remaining
Childcare Enhancement Grant	$698,558	$698,558	0
Program Stabilization	$10,000		$10,000
Program Development	$5,000		$5,000
Research & Innovation	$10,000		$10,000
City-Wide Support Services	$264,000	$264,000	0
Administration of City-Owned	$109,242	$109,242	0
Total	$1,096,800	$1,071,800	$25,000

CONCLUSION

This is the second of three reports related to the allocation of the 2007 Childcare Grants. Social Planning is recommending Council approval for:

- 51 Childcare Enhancement grants ($698,558)

The Childcare Enhancement grant funding will support 1,664 children, in 1,515 spaces in 51 licensed group child care programs. This leaves a balance of $25,000 in the Childcare Grants budget for Research and Innovation, Program Stabilization and Program Development grants to be allocated later this year.

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LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Brant Villa Day Care Society	Learning Tree Day Care	25 3-5 yrs (incl. 3 sp. Needs) - Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Eagles in the Sky Out of School Care - Kid Zone	45 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,874	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Grandview Terrace Child Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	13,500	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Eaglets Daycare	25 3-5 Yrs. Group Care (PT only)	16,457	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Grandview Terrace Out of School Care	20 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	13,500	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc.	Britannia Child Care Centre Out Of School	70 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	23,040	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
Britannia Community Serv Ctr Soc. - Mount Pleasant Child Care Soc.	Mount Pleasant Child Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs; 12 18mos-3 yrs Group Care	27,000	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House	Beaconsfield Out of School Care	30 6-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,874	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House	Lord Selkirk Out of School Care	40 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	18,102	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Cedar Cottage Nbhd House	Queen Alexandra Out of School Care	25 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	8,228	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Collingwood Nbhd House	Sarah House Child Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs. Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Collingwood Nbhd House	Duke Street Child Care Centre Group Care	25 3-5 yrs FT & PT	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	
Collingwood Nbhd House	Collingwood-Carleton Out of School Care	30 5-12 yrs Our of School Care.	9,874	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	
Developmental Disabilities Assoc. of Vancouver-Richmond	Waterside Child Development Centre/Children's Centre	12 18 mos - 3 yrs (incl. 4 sp needs spaces); 8 3-4 yrs (incl. 1sp.needs); Integrated Daycare	21,065	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Eastside Family Place Soc.	Eastside Family Place	15 18mos-5yrs Respite Childminding	3,292	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Frog Hollow Nbhd House	Frog Hollow Nootka Out of School Care	30 5-12 Yrs	9,874	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House's Satellite Daycare	12 18 mos-3 yrs; 25 3-5 Yrs Group Care	27,000	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	TO SUBMIT YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Frog Hollow Nbhd House Out of School Care	40 5-12 yrs	13,165	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Frog Hollow Nbhd House Kindercare	18 5-6 yrs	0	This program is not eligible. Grant is limited to top three priority programs.	
Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)	Frog Hollow Nbhd House Preschool	32 preschool	0	This program is not eligible. Grant is limited to top three priority programs.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Kiwassa Nbhd House	Kiwassa Longhouse Out of School Care	33 5-12 yrs. Out of School Care	10,862	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Kiwassa Nbhd House	Kiwassa-Variety Club Day Care	25 3-5 yrs (incl. 6 sp. Needs) Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Kiwassa Nbhd House - Hastings Townsite CC Soc.	Harbourview Daycare	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	0	This program is not eligible as the client profile submitted did not sufficiently demonstrate that this program serves children from high-need families.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Kiwassa Nbhd House - St. David's Preschool Society	St. David's Preschool	20 preschool	7,899	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Kiwassa Nbhd House-Sir John Franklin Comm School Assoc.	Franklin Community Preschool	20 preschool		This program is not eligible because the client profile submitted did not sufficiently demonstrate that this program serves children from high-need families.	
Little Mountain Nbhd House Soc.	Little Mountain Out of School Care	30 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	9,874	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Little Mountain Nbhd House Soc.	Little Mountain Nbhd House Child Development Centre	15 3-5 yrs; 9 sp. Needs Group Care	9,874	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Little Mountain Nbhd House Soc. - Sunset Child Care Soc.	Sunset Day Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs (incl. 6 sp. Needs), Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To strengthen coordinated administration through the Community Hub model.	
McGregor Child Care Soc.	McGregor Day Care Centre	12 18mos-3 yrs; 25 3-5 Yrs Group Care	27,000	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT AND A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN BY JULY 31, 2007.
Mount Pleasant Nbhd House	Mount Pleasant Nbhd House Daycare	16 3-5 Yrs Group Care	10,532	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Mount Pleasant Nbhd House	Mount Pleasant Nbhd House Preschool	20 Preschool	8,755	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Mt. Pleasant Nbhd House	Mt. Pleasant Nbhd House Out of School Care	40 5 12 Yrs.	0	This program is not eligible because it is not yet licensed.	
Ray Cam Co-op Assoc.	Raymur Place Day Care Centre	20 3-5 yrs (incl. 9 sp. Needs) Group Care	6,643	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Ray-Cam C.C.	Ray-Cam Family Childminding	15 18mos-5 yrs Child Minding	1,660	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Ray-Cam Co-op Association	Ray-Cam Daycare Centre	20 3-5 Yrs.(incl. 9 sp. Needs) Group Care	6,643	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Ray-Cam Cooperative Assoc.	Ray-Cam Centre Out of School Care	40 5-12 yrs	11,623	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Ray-Cam Co-operative Assoc.	Ray-Cam Preschool	20 Preschool (1day per week - Sat.)	431	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Shannon Day Care Soc.	Shannon Day Care Centre	10 18mos-3 yrs; 15 3-5 Yrs. Group Care	23,040	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
South Van. Nbhd House	Poppins Preschool	20 Preschool	7,899	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
South Van. Nbhd House	South Vancouver Nbhd Out of School Care	40 5 - 12 Yrs Out of School Care	13,165	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Spare Time Child Care Soc.	Spare Time Challenge Club	60 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	19,749	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	TO SUBMIT YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
St. Michael's Anglican Church	St. Michael's Day Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	TO SUBMIT A FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN, AND YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY JULY 31, 2007.

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Strathcona C.C. Assoc.	Strathcona C.C. Preschool #2	10 Preschool (2 sessions of 10 each)	4,608	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Strathcona C.C. Assoc.	Strathcona Community Centre Preschool 1	20 Preschool (3 sessions of 20 each)	8,557	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To develop and implement a Quality Improvement Plan.	
Strathcona C.C. Assoc.	Strathcona C.C. Out of School Care	35 5-13 yrs Out of School Care	11,520	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Sunset Community Association	Sunset Preschool	38 Preschool	16,654	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios. To develop and implement a quality Improvement Plan.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Sunset Community Centre Assoc.	Sunset Out of School Care	18 6-12 yrs Out of School Care	5,924	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
The Van. Oral Centre for Deaf Children, Inc	Vancouver Oral Centre for Deaf Children, The	20 3-5 yrs; 28 3-5 yrs (sp. needs)	0	This program is not eligible because the application was incomplete. Program significantly under enrolled, program not highly inclusive. Profile did not sufficiently demonstrate high need families.	
Thunderbird Nbhd Assoc.	Thunderbird After School Care	30 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	15,469	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
Thunderbird Nbhd Assoc. - Rupert-Cassiar Nbhd Association	Thunderbird Nbhd Centre Nursery School	20 Preschool	7,899	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
Van Aboriginal Friendship Ctr Soc	Sundance Day Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
Van Chinese Pentecostal Benevolent Soc.	Sunshine Corner Day Care	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	TO SUBMIT FURTHER INFORMATION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY JULY 31, 2007 RE: INCREASES IN FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COSTS.
YMCA of Greater Van.	Nanook YMCA Day Care	25 3-5 yrs (incl. 4 sp.needs) Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average. To enhance staff ratios.	
YMCA of Greater Van.	Mount Pleasant YMCA Kids Club	40 5-12 yrs Out of School Care	13,165	To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	
YWCA	YWCA Emma's Infant/Toddler Care	14 6 wks-18mos; 14 18mos-3 yrs Group Care	27,000	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
YWCA - Citygate	YWCA Citygate Child Care Centre	25 3-5 yrs Group Care	16,457	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.

LICENSEE	CHILDCARE CENTRE	TOTAL CAPACITY	E GRANT RECOMM.	COMMENTS	E-GRANT CONDITIONS
YWCA - Crabtree	Crabtree Corner	24 6wks-5 yrs Emergency Childcare	23,698	To provide a Food Supplement Program. To maintain fees at or below City-wide average.	TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 31, 2007.
TOTAL GRANTS = 57			**$698,558**		

Childcare profile percentages used to assess eligibility- Must meet at least 3 criteria

Children from single parent families	> 15%
Children from new immigrant/ refugee families	> 15%
Aboriginal children	> 5%
Children from families who receive full or partial provincial childcare subsidy	> 15%
Children from families who receive full provincial childcare subsidy and the parent portion is paid by MCFD	> 15%
Children from immigrant or refugee families who are unable to access provincial subsidy due to reasons other than financial eligibility	>30%
Children who have extra support needs and are not funded through an inclusion (MCFD) contract)	>15%
Children who speak English as a 2nd language	>30%
Children from families that receive an internal subsidy (licensed childminding only)	>30%

Themes and Trends

Staff and board members from the respective organizations were asked to share any themes, trends and issues or challenges they have experiences over the past year. They have reported the following trends:

- Multiple barriers for families applying for Provincial child care subsidy (high turnover of Ministry staff, application process very long and confusing, parents needing to re-apply every three months, long wait times for processing applications).
- Elimination of the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre outreach worker is anticipated to create more difficulty for parents accessing subsidy.
- Increased drug use and needles in Mt. Pleasant child care playgrounds.
- Increased waitlists for the 0 - 5 group.
- Families desperate for child care.
- Children arriving at the centre on Monday morning hungry after the weekend. Parents asking to take left over food home.
- Increasing number of families living in shelters in the DTES and having to deal with bed bugs.
- Increasing number of parents with dual diagnosis (mental health concerns and addictions).
- Dropping enrolment for school-age care in Grandview and increasing demands in Cedar Cottage.
- Enquiries from families from out of country requesting child care.
- Increased cooperation among Vancouver child care organizations to work together.
- Increase in fees due to Provincial child Care Operating Fund reduction (see below for a more detailed discussion) and families unable to afford fees.
- Increased emotional and financial stress of families and frustration regarding the Provincial funding reductions.
- Recruiting and retaining staff a challenge - why?

Provincial Funding:

Child Care Operating Funding Levels

Type of Care	Current Provincial Funding Level per month per child	July 2007 Provincial Funding Levels per month per child	Provincial Funding Reduction per month per child	Average Fee in Vancouver per month (before fee increases due to CCOF reductions)
Infant/ Toddler Care	$281	$205	$76	$976
3-5 year old Care	$150	$110	$40	$636
Preschool (5 sessions/ week)	$37	$27	$10	$305
School Age Care	$56	$56	0	$288